**Statement on Arrangements for the Provision of Free Period Products**

**Oct 2024**

**Details of Specified Public Service Body**

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| **Name of Specified Public Service Body** | St Patrick’s Academy |
| **Main Address of Specified Public Service Body** | 37 Killymeal Road  Dungannon  Co Tyrone  BT71 6DS |
| **Reference to Annex/hyperlink to full list of sites where free period products are available** | See school map Annex 1 |

**Publication Details**

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| **Date of first publication**  **Dates of subsequent publication** | **Oct 2024** |
| **Where will this Statement be published?**  *SPSBs may publish this statement in such a way as they think appropriate, such as publication on their websites.* | **School Website** |

**Details of Consultation Carried Out**

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| **WHEN was a consultation carried out?** | **26th  September 2024  -**  **2nd October 2024** |
| **WHO was consulted?**    *As a minimum, this should be product users who are likely to be on the premises, as the SPSB thinks appropriate.  ‘Product users’ includes people who may need to use the products in the future, such as younger pupils who are likely to have periods in the future.*    *Other people may also be consulted and DE recommends that parents and boards of governors are included for school consultations.* | ·        Parents/Carers    ·        Pupils             Staff  ·        The Board of Governors |
| **HOW did the consultation process establish:**   1. **the ways in which products users ought to be able to obtain free period products?** 2. **the locations in the SPSBs premises in which period products ought to be obtainable free of charge?** 3. **the types of period products which ought to be available?** | The consultation used a combination of multiple-choice and open-ended survey questions to gather user preferences on access methods.  **Questions:**  **Group Membership:** Which group do you belong to? (Pupil, Staff, Parent or Carer, Board of Governors)  **Access Methods and Locations:** Where should period products be available? (Toilets, Physical Education changing rooms, classrooms, school nurse, reception)  **Product Choice:** Which period products should be available? (Pads, tampons, panty liners, reusable options)  **Privacy and Dignity:** How can access respect privacy and confidentiality?  **Availability at All Times:** How can products be ensured to be available at all times?  **Publicising Products:** How should users be informed that products are available? (Posters, talks, assemblies, digital channels.  The survey showed strong support for free period products to be easily and discreetly accessible, primarily in female toilets, PE changing rooms, and the school nurse, with additional access in classrooms and reception. Pads with wings and applicator tampons were the most requested products. Privacy, dignity, and self-service were emphasised, with cubicle-level access and discreet staff support recommended. Consistent availability through regular restocking and Period Dignity Ambassadors was seen as essential, alongside clear communication via posters, talks, assemblies, and various digital media forms. |
| **HOW has the consultation processhad regard to:**  **i.**                    **dignity, privacy and confidentiality of product users**  **ii.**                    **articles which are reusable** | The consultation process addressed dignity, privacy, and confidentiality by asking respondents how products could be accessed discreetly, with widespread support for availability in , discreet staff assistance through the ‘Colourful Daisy’ system, and self-service cupboards or drawers, ensuring users could obtain products without embarrassment.  It also considered reusable products by including options such as reusable pads and period pants in the survey, allowing respondents to indicate their preference and ensuring the school could provide a reasonable choice of both single-use and reusable items in line with user needs. |

**The Arrangements**

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| **What arrangements are being put in place as a result of the consultation?**    As a result of the consultation, the school will provide free period products—including pads with and without wings, applicator tampons, panty liners, and reusable options—at multiple locations, including female toilets, PE changing rooms, the school nurse, and designated classrooms with the ‘Colourful Daisy’ symbol. Products can be obtained discreetly in bathrooms or from the designated teacher, the school nurse or from the general office, ensuring privacy, dignity, and confidentiality. Regular checks and restocking will maintain continuous availability at all times the premises are in use, reflecting both the consultation feedback and Departmental Guidance on reasonable access and choice. |

**The Arrangements – other details**

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| Going forward, the school will continue to embed education and awareness around periods to normalise menstruation and reduce stigma. This will include regular assemblies and the display of informative posters in female bathrooms to ensure pupils are aware of product availability. In addition, arrangements for emergency provision will be strengthened so that period products are accessible during PE lessons and school trips ensuring that all pupils can obtain products discreetly and without interruption to their learning or activities. |

**Publicising the Arrangements**

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| ***How will the SPSB publicise the availability of free products-***  The school will publicise the availability of free period products in a way that respects dignity, privacy, and confidentiality through clear, discreet messaging, including posters in female bathrooms, reminders during assemblies, and information on the school website. Communications will emphasise that products are provided free of charge and outline the arrangements for obtaining them, including the locations (toilets, PE changing rooms, school nurse, and designated classrooms), ensuring that pupils can obtain them easily and discreetly whenever needed. |

Annex 1

School map outlining where period hygiene products are available.



